var. β. testâ globosâ, nigrâ, guttis maculisque flavescentibus.

*Testudo virgulata.* Latr. Rept. I. p. 100. et icon.—Daud. Rept. II. p. 201. t. xxiii. f. 3, 4.

*Emys virgulata.* Schweig. Prod. sp. 43.—Wagler, Amph. p. 138.

*Terrapene virgulata.* Fitzing. Rept. 44.

*Ter. maculata.* Bell, Zool. Journ. II. p. 309. sp. 2.

Habitat in Americâ septentrionali.

Mus. nostr.—Mus. Brit. &c.—α et β in Mus. nostr.

Descriptio. *Caput* magnum, suprà planum, scutatum, fuscum, aurantio, luteo vel flavo variegatum. *Maxilla* superior undulata, apice uncinato. *Oculi* magni, fusci. *Collum* rugosum, squamosum, suprà fuscum, ad latera et infrà luteum, fusco maculatum. *Pedes anteriores* crassi, subclavati, squamis rotundis, aurantiis vel flavis tecti; unguibus parvis, brevibus, cinereis. *Pedes posteriores* rugoso-squamosi, luteo-aurantii; unguibus acutis, elongatis, quorum secundus reliquis longior. *Cauda* brevis, squamosa. *Testa* ovata, vel ovato-rotunda, elevata, subglobosa, margine subintegro, anticè leviter emarginato, posticè revoluto, lateribus rotundatis; fusca, vel fusco-nigra, maculis flavis vel luteis, plùs minùs distinctis, variegata. *Scuta dorsalia* glabra, obsoletè sulcata: *vertebralia* plana, carinata, areolis subposticis; primum pentagonum, margine undulato; secundum et tertium lata, hexagona; quartum hexagonum, posticè angustius; quintum irregulariter hexagonum, posticè latius: *costalia* rotundata, convexa; primum trigono-trapezoideum; secundum et tertium pentagona; quartum parvum, quadratum: *marginalia* omnia ferè quadrata, areolis posticis; posteriora et interdùm lateralia revoluta: *caudalia* declivia, quadrata: *scutum nuchale* minimum. *Sternum* latum, planum, margine integerrimo, flavum, nigro maculatum vel nebulosum, in nonnullis omninò fuscum, vel nigrum: *scuta jugalia* triangularia, posticè acuta: *humeralia* quadrilatera, extrorsùm latiora, rotundata, introrsùm angustiora: *pectoralia* et *abdominalia* quadrilatera, transversè oblonga: *femoralia* subtriangularia, sed angulo interiore truncato; *analia* trigona, margine posteriore rotundato.

In lobos duos inæquales dividitur sternum; quorum anterior minor, et, testâ clausâ, sursùm reflexus; posterior planus; lobi cardine membranaceo-cartilagineo, inter scuta pectoralia et abdominalia, connexi. Margo integer sterni ad marginem inferiorem testæ accuratè applicari potest; ita ut animal, intra testam retractum, tutissimè et ex omni parte includatur.



*Testæ osseæ mensura.*

| | Var. α. unc. | lin. | | Var β. unc. | lin. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Longitudo dorsi | 5 | 5 | | 4 | 6 |
| Latitudo ejusdem | 4 | 1 | | 4 | 0 |
| Longitudo sterni | 5 | 3 | | 4 | 6 |
| Altitudo | 2 | 3 | | 2 | 3 |

There is perhaps scarcely another species of Tortoise so liable to variation as this, whether in colour, in marking, or in form. From the comparison of only a few specimens, I some years ago described three of the most remarkable varieties as distinct species; but the possession of numerous individuals, several of which I have had the opportunity of observing whilst alive, has enabled me to ascertain that they all belong to one species. The common, and, as it may be termed, normal form is intermediate between the two extremes, which I then termed respectively *nebulosa* and *maculata*.

The shell is ovate, somewhat broader behind, and considerably elevated; more so, in proportion, than any other species of the genus, and, consequently, than any other of the family of the *Emydidæ*: the vertebral plates have an obtuse longitudinal carina; the dorsal ones are somewhat convex and rounded; the margin is revolute, particularly over the thighs. The scuta are slightly sulcated, and of a dark brown or blackish colour, with large yellow spots and splotches, which assume somewhat of a radiating and circular direction around the areolæ, though not in any very marked degree. The sternum is in some specimens wholly yellow, excepting a few black or brown spots; in others it is beautifully mottled or clouded with black and yellow, pretty equally distributed; and in others, as in that from which the present figure is taken, it is almost wholly of a rich blackish brown colour. The margin of the sternum is very entire, and closes the shell accurately when the lobes are raised. The skin of the animal is marked with similar colours to those of the shell, the yellow predominating in some individuals, and the black in others. In one specimen in my possession, the whole of the lateral and under part of the head and neck